(d) whether the dialogue cannot be kept with Pakistan on, to find a lasting solution to this vexed Kashmir problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Government is committed to the resolution of all outstanding issues with Pakistan through peaceful discussions, as envisaged under the Simla Agreement and reaffirmed in the Lahore Declaration. India has called upon Pakistan to stop cross-border terrorism and abandon hostile propaganda so that an environment appropriate for a dialogue is created.

Downsizing in the Establishment of MEA

1306. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has prepared a road map for a drastic cut in the establishment of his Ministry including the foreign Mission abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated savings which accrue as a result of the downsizing; and

(d) whether the diplomatic requirements of the country have been adequately protected before resorting to the downsizing of the embassy staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise, Sir.

Britain's Continued Sale of Arms to Pakistan

1307. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Britain will continue arms sale to Pakistan and has not lifted the ban on the same; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The British Government announced on 5th July, 2000, that they have issued 20 standard individual export licenses to Pakistan for a narrow and well-defined range of equipment, such as naval spares, bomb disposal equipment, goods for civilian end users.